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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/751,307	12/31/2003	Mohamed Soufi	03226/356001; SUN040029	8806

32615 7590 06/20/2007  
OSHA LIANG L.L.P./SUN  
1221 MCKINNEY, SUITE 2800  
HOUSTON, TX 77010

EXAMINER
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OCHOA, JUAN CARLOS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2123

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/20/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Advisory Action</b> <b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>	Application No. 10/751,307	Applicant(s) SOUFI ET AL.	
	Examiner Juan C. Ochoa	Art Unit 2123	

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 21 May 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

#### AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

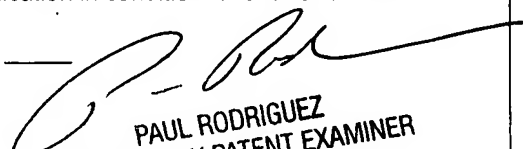
4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: 1-5, 7-12 and 14-22.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

#### AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

#### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

  
**PAUL RODRIGUEZ**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant argues, (see page 2, last paragraph to page 3, 1st paragraph), that Fujiwara fails to teach "producing two distinct images". Fujiwara teaches "producing two distinct images" (see col. 18, lines 13-18). As per the definition "an image of each optimized node (208) (e.g., a list of optimized nodes and information about how to compute the optimized nodes from the optimized image" (see application description page 7, paragraph [0027]), Examiner interprets "an optimized nodes image" as Fujiwara's "The module name may be prefixed to the signal line name for a lower-level signal line. A reference list indicating the correspondence between the signal lines before and after the hierarchy expansion may be prepared"(see col. 18, lines 13-18).

Applicant argues that Fujiwara fails to teach "reconstructing a second simulation image using the two distinct images", (see page 3, 2nd paragraph), and that Fujiwara fails to teach "invoking an image when debugging is selected", (see page 3, last paragraph to page 4, 2nd paragraph). Examiner disagrees. (See Fujiwara's "A reference list indicating the correspondence between the signal lines before and after the hierarchy expansion may be prepared, so that the original signal names before the hierarchy expansion can be used after debugging" in col. 18, lines 14-18).

Applicant argues, (see page 4, next to last paragraph to page 5, 1st paragraph), that Fujiwara fails to teach "an optimized nodes image as recited in dependent claim 5". Fujiwara teaches "an optimized nodes image as recited in dependent claim 5" (see col. 18, lines 13-18). As per the definition "an image of each optimized node (208) (e.g., a list of optimized nodes and information about how to compute the optimized nodes from the optimized image" (see application description page 7, paragraph [0027]), Examiner interprets "an optimized nodes image as recited in dependent claim 5" as Fujiwara's "The module name may be prefixed to the signal line name for a lower-level signal line. A reference list indicating the correspondence between the signal lines before and after the hierarchy expansion may be prepared"(see col. 18, lines 13-18).

Therefore it is the Examiners position that taking the entire Fujiwara reference the Examiner contends that the art supports the rejection of the claims and the rejection is maintained.



6/12/07